



Legislative Update

March 19, 1999

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Mary Selecky Appointed Secretary

Governor Locke has named Mary C. Selecky as Secretary of The Department of Health. The appointment was announced Monday at a press conference held in the Governor's office.

Selecky has been serving as Acting Secretary of the Department since October 1998. During that time, a search for a permanent Secretary was conducted. "As the governor conducted a nationwide search for this position, a long and often tedious process, one name kept coming up -- Mary Selecky," Joe Dear, Locke's chief of staff said. "We have done a thorough search and have come away with the top-notch candidate."

Dear cited her proven record of reaching out to diverse groups across the state as a primary factor in the governor's decision to appoint Selecky. "As a resident of Colville in Stevens County, Mary has a unique perspective on the special needs and challenges that rural areas face," he said. "As we strive to bring our state together, and make sure that we move as 'one Washington' into the next century, Mary will continue to be a powerful and respected voice in the health care community across the state."

Senators Pat Thibaudeau, D-Seattle and Alex Deccio, R-Yakima expressed enthusiastic support for the appointment at the press conference. Representatives Linda Evans Parlette, R-Wenatchee; Eileen Cody, D-Seattle; and Cathy McMorris, R-Colville also attended the press conference.

Selecky must be confirmed by the Senate. A confirmation hearing is scheduled for Thursday, March 25 at 1:30 p.m. before the Senate Health and Long Term Care Committee.

Selecky has a wealth of public health experience. She served as Administrator of the Northeast Tri-County Health District since 1979. She has held leadership positions in numerous public health organization, associations and boards. She was a founding member of the Washington Rural Health Association. She is a past president of the Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials and served until recently as legislative chair. Selecky was an early advocate of the creation of the Department of Health, which she will now lead.

Selecky is a native of Pennsylvania, where her family has a long history of civic and political involvement. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. She has resided in Colville since moving there from Pennsylvania in 1975. §

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Session Hits Deadline For Passage Of Legislation Out Of House Of Origin

The legislative session passed another important milestone on March 17. All bills still alive were required to be voted out of the house in which they were originally introduced to receive further consideration. (Subject, of course, to revival as an amendment or in connection with the budget.) In this edition, we discuss the progress on some of the legislation the Department has been watching.

Senate Passes Drug -Affected Infant Bill

ESSB 5480, which establishes new procedures for drug-affected babies and their mothers, was passed by the Senate. The bill addresses the duties of health care providers and DSHS when a drug-affected infant is born. The topic of prenatal drug and alcohol use has been the subject of study by the Department. The bill was amended on the Senate floor to add a section that requires the Washington Institute for Public Policy to conduct an evaluation of the bill's impact and issue a report no later than December 1, 2001.

Salmon Restoration Efforts Make Progress

On Monday, the Senate passed four bills related to salmon restoration efforts. However, the salmon/water measure proposed by the Governor, 2SSB 5289, awaits passage by the Senate and action by the House.

The four bills were (1) SSB 5683, creating a non-profit Puget Sound Foundation to make grants for salmon recovery; (2) ESB 5613, which sets principles for drafting a salmon recovery plan; (3) E2SSB 5595, creating a board appointed by the Governor; and (4) ESSB 5000, which creates a special license plate to raise funds for salmon recovery.

The Governor's water legislation has been exempted from the March 17 cutoff. That legislative proposal contains important roles for the Department in the areas of conservation and water reuse. Ideas for changing or adding to the legislation continue to circulate, and the bill will continue to be worked to build additional support.

Senate Passes Bill Giving Department Power to Make Medical Marijuana Rules

After initially voting down the bill, the Senate passed ESB 5704, which requires the Department to adopt to implement the medical marijuana law (ch. 69.51A RCW) passed by the voters last November.

Under the state's constitution, amending an initiative requires a two thirds majority of both houses of the legislature. The original bill failed to gain that super majority on March 16. The bill was reconsidered, then amended to require the Department to consult with the Washington State Medical Association and a number of law enforcement agencies. On March 17, the bill was passed 33 to 12 and now heads to the House.

Vital Records Fee Increase Fails to Pass Senate

SSB 5201, Department of Health request legislation, failed on final passage on the floor of the Senate. The vote on the measure was 19 in favor and 26 opposed. The bill would have increased the fee for birth and death records by \$2 and moved the fee out of statute and under the State Board of Health in 2001. Concerns raised during floor debate included the impact of a fee increase, as well as the fact that the fee was increased a year ago to fund mandated autopsies at the local level. Last year's increase in the fee went into the Death Investigation Account, and not to the Department. However, the Senate believed another increase in the fee, even for a different purpose, was premature. The Department will be assessing the impact of the measure's demise on the functioning of the Center for Health Statistics and working with local health jurisdiction on any funding problems.

Biomedical Waste Bills Advance

The Senate has passed three bills related to the disposal of biomedical waste. ESSB 5433 requires that county and city comprehensive solid waste management plans include a program for the handling, transport, and disposal of biomedical waste. The bill was amended to make clear that segregation of biomedical waste is not automatically required.

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Biomedical Waste Bills Advance

Con't from Page 2

ESSB 5082 requires the treatment of potentially infectious laboratory stocks and cultures before transport from the facility that generated the material, or segregation of the stocks and cultures for transport to a treatment facility. No treatment process that creates the potential for the generation or release of airborne pathogens may be used.

ESB 5597 requires that the Department of Labor and Industries conduct a study on the potential for employee exposure to pathogens caused by biomedical waste. That bill was amended on the floor to include the provisions of SSB 5880, which establishes standards to protect against needlestick injuries. That bill had passed out of the Senate Health and Long Term Care committee but appeared to have died in Senate Ways and Means until the floor action attached its provisions to ESB 5597. §

LEGISLATIVEINTERNET LINKS

Legislative information can be accessed via the internet. The following are a few links that may be of interest:

Legislative Update Newsletter

http://www.doh.wa.gov/publicat/99_legup/99_legup.htm

Legislative Information

WWW - <http://www.leg.wa.gov>

Gopher - gopher.leg.wa.gov

FTP - ftp.leg.wa.gov

Email - ftpmail@leg.wa.gov

Washington State House of Representatives

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/www/house/members/housepg.htm>

Washington State Senate

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/www/senate.htm>

Washington State Governor's Home Page

<http://www.wa.gov/governor>

TVW indicates that TVW tentatively plans to televise either LIVE or on a tape delayed basis. For additional information on TVW scheduling or availability, please call TVW at (360) 586-5555, or visit the TVW web site at: www.tvw.org

Meeting Schedule

Senate Health and Long Term Care Committee

Senate Hearing Room 4

Monday 1:30 - 3:30

Wednesday 1:30 - 3:30

Thursday 1:30 - 3:30

House Health Care Committee

House Hearing Room C

Tuesday 1:30 - 3:30

Thursday 8:00 - 10:00

Saturday 1:30 - 3:30 §

Legislative Cut Off Dates

March 2, 1999: Policy cutoff for the House.

March 3, 1999: Policy cutoff for the Senate.

March 8, 1999: Fiscal cutoff for both houses.

March 17, 1999, 5:00 p.m.: Final consideration for the house of origin.

April 2, 1999: Policy cutoff for the opposite house.

April 5, 1999: Fiscal cutoff for the opposite house.

April 16, 1999, 5:00 p.m.: Final consideration for the opposite house.

April 25, 1999: Sine Die. §

March 19, 1999

Jennifer Bush

Bill watch this week includes only those bills that have been reported out of committee by the policy or fiscal committee cut off date.

Data and Confidentiality

HB 1372/SB 5240: Birth Defects Surveillance

Repeals the Handicapped Children's Registry statute. **Senate Judiciary/House Health Care.**

E HB 2015: Year 2000 Date Change Liability

Provides that the state is severally, not jointly, liable for damages arising from the year 2000 problem. Immunizes the state from the first \$100 of liability per claimant arising from the year 2000 problem. **Senate Judiciary.**

SSB 5482: Medical Research Records

An exception is stated to the Driver's Privacy Protection Act for information currently available under the public disclosure laws. An exception to the federal law is required to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. Information accessible under public disclosure may be released to health research organizations recognized by an institutional review board. **House State Government, Public Hearing, 3-23-99, 10:00 a.m., House Hearing Room C.**

SSB 5793: Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Increases the protection of confidential information related to sexually transmitted diseases and HIV. **Senate Passed 3rd.**

E SSB 6035: Year 2000 Citizen's Protection

Declares that a person may be held harmless to any claim or action brought against the person if he or she establishes that the default, failure to pay, breach, omission, or other violation that is the basis of the claim against him or her was caused, in whole or in part, by a year 2000 (Y2K) failure associated with an electronic computing device, and, if it were not for the Y2K failure, the person would have been able to satisfy the obligations that are the basis of the claim. **House Judiciary.**

Disease Prevention and Control

HB 1080: Infectious Disease Testing

Provides infectious disease testing at no cost to good Samaritans for infectious diseases after rendering emergency assistance that has brought them into contact with a bodily fluid. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care.**

SHB 1371/SSB 5199: Tuberculosis Control

Revises provisions relating to reporting, treatment, and payment for treatment of tuberculosis. Repeals obsolete sections of tuberculosis statutes. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care/House Health Care.**

Environmental Health

SHB 1054/SB 5125: Pesticide Registration Commission

Appropriations made to Washington State University may now expressly be used for evaluations, studies, or investigations approved by the Commission for such Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and pesticide resistance management programs. An official action may now be taken by the Commission by a majority vote of its quorum, rather than a majority vote of the voting members. This bill is a part of the Washington State University's Safe Food Initiative. **Senate Agriculture & Rural Economic Development/House Agriculture & Ecology.**

SHB 1163/SB 5106: Illegal Drug Manufacture

Finds that the contamination of properties used for illegal drug manufacturing poses a threat to public health. The toxic chemicals left behind by the illegal drug manufacturing must be cleaned up to prevent harm to subsequent occupants of the properties. Intends that properties be decontaminated in a manner that is efficient, prompt, and that makes them safe to reoccupy. **Senate Environmental Quality & Water Resources, Public Hearing, 3-25-99, 1:30 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 3/House Agriculture & Ecology.**

HB 1164/SB 5105: Public Water System

Definition

Revises the definition of public water system to include systems providing water through constructed conveyances, in conformance with federal law. **Senate Environment Quality & Water Resources/House Agriculture & Ecology.**

HB 1310: PUD Authority

Revises provisions relating to the authority of a public utility district to furnish water to persons outside of the district and the county where the district is located, and to establish local utility districts for water or sewer facilities outside of a district and the county where it is located. **Senate State & Local Government.**

HB 1432: Dairy Commission

Authorizes the Dairy Commission to participate in federal and state regulatory activities and expend funds when such activities affect the production, manufacture, distribution, sale, or use of dairy products, and educate the dairy industry on such matters. **Senate Agriculture & Rural Economic Development.**

HB 1642: Surface Water Permits & Rights

Allows water permit holders to change the point of water diversion for an undeveloped portion of an existing water right permit from an existing authorized diversion point, downstream to an existing intake structure, if there is no change in ownership of the permit or the original purpose and place of use of the water. **Senate Environment Quality & Water Resources.**

E SHB 2079: Salmon Recovery

Authorizes a plan for salmon recovery in Washington State. **House Passed 3rd.**

E SHB 2095: Commercial Fertilizer

Revises provisions relating to registration fees, stop sale and use, seizure, and disposal of commercial fertilizer. **Senate Agriculture & Rural Economic Development.**

2SHB 2098: Wastewater Treatment Systems

Regulates designers of on-site wastewater treatment systems by creation of a state program. **Senate Environment Quality & Water Resources.**

SHB 2099: Water Right Relinquishment

Allows an exemption from relinquishment of a water right for non-use resulting from the operation or pendency of legal proceedings. **Senate Environment Quality & Water Resources.**

SSB 5059: Radioactive Waste Transport

Authorizes counties to assess impact fees to cover the costs associated with the transport of radioactive waste over their roadways. **House Local Government.**

E SSB 5082: Biomedical Waste Inactivation

Declares, beginning January 1, 2001, medical wastes with a biosafety hazard class of 3 or 4 that are infectious to humans and generated at microbiological laboratories must be treated before being transported from the facility or be segregated and transported to a treatment facility. **Senate Passed 3rd.**

2SSB 5289: Water Resource Management.

Instream flows for areas with listed species are adopted. Conservation programs and measurement of diversion/withdrawal is mandatory in areas with listed fish species, urban growth areas, and public water systems. Reclaimed water is considered a potential new source of water and replacement for non-potable water, where feasible, in areas with listed species and urban growth areas. A system of incremental certification is established for municipal water systems. Schedules are established for incorporating new guidelines into shoreline master programs. Water law and water resource allocation and management are addressed by Attorney General reports, a Legislative Water Resource Management Task Force, and a water resource management system for agriculture. Allows applications for transfers or changes regarding water uses in a basin independently of the order of processing or priority placed upon processing applications for new withdrawals within the same basin, and independently of the order of processing or priority placed upon any applications regarding water use in other basins. **Senate 2nd Reading.**

E SSB 5433: Biomedical Waste Disposal

Requires the inclusion in a comprehensive solid waste plan of a program for the safe handling, transport, and disposal of biomedical waste. The program shall specify how biomedical waste will be segregated from other solid waste if determined necessary by the local health department. **House Agriculture & Ecology.**

E 2SSB 5595: Salmon Recovery Funding Board

Establishes the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, which will be responsible for making grants and loans for salmon recovery projects. **House Natural Resources.**

E SSB 5597: Airborne/Waterborne Pathogens

The Department of Labor & Industries, shall study possible occupational health standards for biological agents that protect workers from airborne and waterborne pathogens. Amended to include standards for needlestick injury protection. **Senate 3rd Reconsidered.**

E SSB 5800: Commercial Fertilizer

Revises provisions relating to unlawful commercial fertilizers. **House Agriculture & Ecology.**

E SSB 5803: Dairy Nutrient Management

Directs the Department of Ecology to publish a guide to all registered dairy farms in the state regarding dairy nutrient management. Creates a Dairy Nutrient Management Task Force, which will make recommendations on dairy nutrient management. **House Agriculture & Ecology.**

2SSB 5821: On-Site Wastewater Treatment

Establishes a state-wide licensing program for persons who design on-site wastewater treatment systems. **House Commerce & Labor.**

E SSB 5866: Fertilizer Registration

Eliminates component registration of fertilizer products. **House Agriculture & Ecology.**

Families and Children

E SHB 1362: Friendly Parent Presumption

Revises laws relating to residential provisions of permanent parenting plans. **Senate Judiciary.**

2SHB 1546: In-Home Care Services

Revises provisions related to long-term care of adults. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care.**

SHB 1620: Vulnerable Adult Protection

Provides DSHS and law enforcement agencies with the authority to investigate complaints of abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, or neglect of vulnerable adults. Provides protective services and legal remedies to protect them. **Senate Health and Long Term Care.**

SHB 1650: Oral Medications at Schools

Expands the list of health professionals who may request to have school employees administer oral medications to students. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care.**

2SSB 5766: Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Requires the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program to increase the number of trained volunteer long-term care ombudsmen available to residents living in these settings. Provides that a local or a state long-term care ombudsman, including a trained volunteer long-term care ombudsman, shall have the duties and authority set forth in the Federal Older Americans Act for local or state ombudsmen. Appropriates funds from the general fund to the Dept. of Community, Trade, and Economic Development for distribution state-wide to the regional offices of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. **House Health Care.**

E SB 5141: Newborn Screening Service Fee

Allows DOH to collect an additional fee for supplying services under the state's infant screening program. **House Health Care.**

SSB 5277: Higher Education Student Child Care

Allows the Higher Education Coordinating Board to award, on a competitive basis, child care grants to state institutions of higher education to encourage programs to address the need for high quality, accessible, and affordable child care for students at higher education institutions. Provides that the higher education coordinating board and the state board for community and technical colleges shall administer the programs. **House Higher Education.**

E SSB 5295: Breastfeeding

Declares the act of breastfeeding or expressing breast milk is not indecent exposure. Allows that, except where reasonable safety or security considerations require other options, an employer must make reasonable efforts to provide a convenient, sanitary, safe, private, and comfortable room or other location, in close proximity to the work area, other than a restroom, where the employee can express her milk in privacy. **House Commerce & Labor.**

SSB 5430: Women's Health Advisory Committee

The Women's Health Advisory Committee is created. The committee is composed of ten members to be appointed by the Governor. The committee is instructed to advise the Department of Health in the development and coordination of policies and programs relating to women's health. \$10,000 is appropriated for the committee for each of the next two years. **House Health Care.**

SSB 5465: Family Planning Services

Authorizes DSHS to, upon receipt of approval from the federal Health Care Financing Administration, to implement a waiver under section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act to provide family planning services to persons with family incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. **House Appropriations.**

E SSB 5480: Drug-Affected Infants

Requires a woman's primary health care provider to identify and screen pregnant and lactating women according to the criteria developed by DOH, convey to the infant's primary health care provider screening findings that would suggest the need for testing of the infant, or conduct the testing, inform the birth mother of an infant who tests positive that she can have a tubal ligation at no cost to her within six months following the birth, and inform the birth mother of an infant who tests positive of appropriate drug treatment and birth control services. Requires the health care provider of a newborn infant to test any infant the provider reasonably believes is drug-affected and notify DSHS of the name and address of the parent or parents of a drug-affected infant. **Senate Passed 3rd.**

SSB 5547: School Medical Assistance

Allows school district employees, not licensed as nurses or nursing assistants, to file a written letter of refusal to administer oral medications or refusal to perform clean, intermittent bladder catheterization of students. This may not serve as grounds for employee dismissal or termination of employment. **House Education, Public Hearing, 3-22-99, 1:30 p.m., House Hearing Room A.**

SSB 5561: Vulnerable Adult Protection

Provides DSHS and law enforcement agencies with the authority to investigate complaints of abandonment,

abuse, financial exploitation, or neglect of vulnerable adults. Provides protective services and legal remedies ~~to protect them~~. **House Children & Family Services.**

SSB 5590: Oral Medications at Schools

Expands the list of health professionals who may request to have school employees administer oral medications to students. Declares that a school employee who administers oral medication to a student and is in substantial compliance with the prescription of the student's licensed health professional who is prescribing within the scope of the professional's prescriptive authority or the written instructions provided with the medication, then the employee, the employee's school district or school of employment, and the members of the governing board and chief administrator shall not be liable in any criminal action or for civil damages as a result of the administration of the medication. **House Education.**

SB 5772: Domestic Violence Victims Records

Strengthens the confidentiality of records for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault. **House State Government.**

SSB 5828: Gift of Life Award

The Washington Gift of Life award to recognize the special kindness of those who donate their organs is created. **House State Government.**

SSB 5864: Long-Term Care Residents

Allows a health maintenance organization to return an individual to his or her nursing care facility. **House Health Care.**

E SSB 6020: Social Security Numbers

Delays implementation of the requirement to record social security numbers on license applications to assist in child support enforcement. **House Judiciary, Public Hearing, 3-25-99, 8:30 a.m., House Hearing Room B.**

Fiscal

HB 1165/SB 5182: Capital Budget

Makes appropriations and authorizes expenditures for capital improvements. **House Capital Budget/Senate Ways & Means.**

HB 1167/SB 5183: Capital Budget/ Supplemental
Makes supplemental appropriations and authorizes expenditures for capital improvements. **House Capital Budget/Senate Ways & Means.**

HB 1186/SB 5180: Operating Budget
Makes appropriations and authorizes expenditures for the operations of state agencies for the fiscal biennium beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001. **House Appropriations/Senate Ways & Means.**

HB 1187: Operating Budget/Supplemental
Makes supplemental appropriations for the 1997-99 biennium. **House Appropriations.**

SSB 5181 Operating Budget/Supplemental
Makes supplemental appropriations for the 1997-99 biennium. **House Appropriations.**

E SB 5250: Women's Health Programs
Authorizes the secretary to accept such grants, services, and property from the federal government, foundations, organizations, medical schools, and other entities as are available for the purpose of designing and implementing programs that specifically address the health-related needs of women. **House Health Care.**

Injury Prevention

SHB 1181: Domestic Violence Perpetrator
Requires if a domestic violence perpetrator or the victim has a minor child, treatment must specifically include education regarding the effects of domestic violence on children, such as the emotional impacts of domestic violence on children and the long-term consequences that exposure to incidents of domestic violence may have on children, and parenting skills to help the perpetrator control the events or behavior that lead to incidents of domestic violence. The court may, as part of any term of community supervision, order the offender to participate in an approved domestic violence perpetrator program. **Senate Judiciary.**

HB 1352: Concealed Pistol Licenses
Declares "good cause" for a temporary emergency license includes, but is not limited to, when the applicant has obtained a valid no-contact order, anti-harassment order, or protection order restraining another person from molesting or disturbing the applicant or excluding another person from going onto the grounds of

or entering the home, workplace, or school of the applicant and has sworn by affidavit that it is not unlawful for the applicant to possess a firearm. **Senate Judiciary.**

SHB 1391: Concealed Pistol Permits
Declares a license from another jurisdiction is valid only if the license is currently valid in that jurisdiction; and the Department of Licensing, after consultation with the Washington State Patrol, has adopted a rule identifying the jurisdiction as one that has restrictions that are at least as restrictive as those in Washington and recognizes Washington State concealed pistol licenses as valid in that state or will recognize Washington licenses upon the department's identification of the jurisdiction. **Senate Judiciary.**

HB 1555/SSB 5573: Criminal History Records
Declares criminal justice agencies may furnish certain criminal records to other agencies. This provision of information is not considered a dissemination of criminal records. **Senate Judiciary/House Judiciary.**

HB 1757: Inmate DNA Testing
Requires that juveniles and adults who are convicted of violent or sexual offenses submit blood samples for DNA testing. Intends that all health care providers assist interested parents in obtaining blood samples for DNA testing for safekeeping by the parent. This will enable parents to better assist law enforcement in finding and identifying a child in the unfortunate event of a child's disappearance or abduction, and in identifying children who may be victims in accidents or natural disasters. **Senate Human Services & Corrections, Public Hearing, 3-23-99, 8:00 a.m., Senate Hearing Room 4.**

SSB 5094: Personal Flotation Devices
Requires that a child 12 years old and under, while aboard a vessel under 19 feet in length on the waters of this state, must wear a U. S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device while the vessel is underway, with limited exceptions. **House Natural Resources.**

SB 5570: Vehicular Assault
Declares a person guilty of vehicular assault if he operates or drives any vehicle with disregard for the safety of others, and this conduct causes serious bodily injury to another. **House Criminal Justice & Corrections.**

Insurance

E SSB 5111: Genetic Information/Health Insurance

Declares a health carrier may not deny or cancel health plan coverage, or vary the premiums, terms, or conditions for health plan coverage, for an individual or a family member of an individual, on the basis of genetic information, or because the individual or family member of an individual has requested or received genetic services. **House Health Care, Public Hearing, 3-25-99, 8:00 a.m., House Hearing Room C.**

SSB 5112: Mastectomies/Health Insurance

Requires every health carrier and every state purchased health care plan that provides coverage for mastectomies to permit the attending provider, in consultation with the patient, to make decisions on the length of inpatient stay after a mastectomy. These decisions must be based on accepted medical practice. **House Health Care, Public Hearing, 3-25-99, 8:00 a.m., House Hearing Room C.**

SSB 5349: Cranial Hair Insurance

Requires insurance coverage for cranial hair prostheses for alopecia areata. **Senate Passed 3rd.**

SB 5355: Medicare Replacement Policies

Requires issuer of Medicare supplement insurance policies to cover both Medicare hospital and physician services without evidence of insurability, for people who are eligible because of age, disability, or end-stage renal disease, if the Medicare supplement policy replaces a similar policy or certificate. Insurers may set rates only on a community-rated basis, and may develop no more than two rating pools. **House Health Care.**

SSB 5416: Children's Health Insurance

Creates the Children's Health Insurance Program to provide health care to children who are eligible for health care coverage under Title XXI of the federal Social Security Act. **House Health Care.**

SB 5445: Mandated Benefit Bill Review

Gives discretion to the chair of an appropriate committee of the Legislature to determine if it is in the public interest to review any mandated benefit bill that has been referred to the committee. **House Health Care, Public Hearing, 3-25-99, 8:00 a.m., House Hearing Room C.**

E SSB 5512: Contraceptive Insurance Coverage

Attempts to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies and ensure access to contraceptive services in health plans that cover prescription drugs and outpatient health services. Provides an exemption from the bill for those who object to contraceptives for reason of conscience or religion. **House Health Care, Public Hearing, 3-23-99, 1:30 p.m., House Hearing Room C.**

SSB 5587: Patient Bill of Rights

Declares health plan patients have: sufficient and timely access to clinically and culturally appropriate health care services to maintain and improve health; adequate choice among qualified health care professionals; are assured that health care decisions are made by appropriate medical personnel based upon sound medical standards; improved access to information regarding their health plans; access to a quick and impartial process for appealing denials of health care coverage; are protected from unnecessary invasions of health care privacy; are assured that personal health care information will be used only as necessary to obtain and pay for health care or to improve the quality of care; and are protected from unfair and deceptive practices. **House Health Care.**

SSB 5607: Retired/Disabled Health Insurance

Requires a county, municipality, or other political subdivision that has a health insurance plan for its employees to permit retired and disabled employees and their dependents to continue participation in the plan, subject to certain exceptions. **House Health Care.**

E SSB 5812: Health Care Claim Payment

Requires medical insurers to pay health care claims promptly. **House Health Care.**

E SSB 5813: Health Plan Medical Director

Requires third-party payors to designate a licensed medical director for its coverage decisions. **Senate Passed 3rd.**

E SSB 5848: Basic Health Plan Coverage

Intends that the Basic Health Plan administrator develop alternative purchasing strategies to ensure access to basic health plan enrollees in all areas of the state, with an emphasis on rural and underserved areas. **House Health Care.**

Professional/Facilities Licensing

SHB 1113/SSB 5149: Occupational Therapy

Declares that no person may practice or represent himself or herself as an occupational therapy practitioner without first having a valid license to do so. Declares that treatment by an occupational therapy practitioner of such a medical case may take place only upon the referral of a physician, osteopathic physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, naturopath, chiropractor, physician assistant, psychologist, or advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed to practice in this state. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care/House Health Care.**

SHB 1218: Nurse Delegation of Tasks

Authorizes RNs to delegate nursing care tasks using their professional nursing judgment and standards of practice to registered or certified nursing assistants in community-based care settings. Provides authority to the Nursing Commission to develop protocols for implementing all nurse delegation through rulemaking. Allows RNs, on a case by case basis, to delegate tasks to nursing assistants in community-based care settings prior to the nursing assistant completing the nurse delegation core training. The RN is required to provide all necessary one-on-one training specific to that task and consumer and would assure that the nursing assistant received the core delegation training within the first 60 days of the delegation process. Lack of completion of core training in the first 60 days of the delegation process will result in immediately rescinding the delegation process. No extensions would be permitted. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care.**

SHB 1251/SSB 5415: Boards, Commissions, and Programs

Allows the Secretary of Health to designate health care assistants and other health care providers to serve on ad hoc committees appointed by the Secretary to study specified topics. Removes the specific authority of the Secretary to appoint dietitians and nutritionists to serve on such committees. Eliminates the Health Professions Advisory Committee. **Senate State and Local Government, Public Hearing, 3-25-99, 1:30 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 3/House State Government, Public Hearing, 3-26-99, 8:00 a.m., House Hearing Room C.**

HB 1699: Dentist Continuing Education

Directs the Dental Quality Commission to establish continuing education requirements for dentists. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care.**

HB 1711: Hospital Licensing Information

Declares that information received by DOH through filed reports or hospital inspections may be disclosed. Exceptions are licensing inspections or complaint investigations, which may be disclosed no sooner than 3 business days after the hospital has received the resulting assessment report. Information regarding administrative action against the licensee may be disclosed after the hospital has received the documents initiating the administrative action. Provides that DOH, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations, and any other accrediting organization may review and audit the records of a quality improvement or peer review committee in connection with their inspection and review of hospitals. The information obtained will not be subject to the discovery process, and confidentiality shall be respected as required. Each hospital will produce and make accessible to DOH the appropriate records and otherwise facilitate the review and audit. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care, Public Hearing, 3-25-99, 1:30 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 4.**

SHB 1838: Impaired Dentist Account

Requires DOH to collect a small surcharge on dental professional licenses to establish the Impaired Dentist Account, for the voluntary treatment and rehabilitation of impaired dentists. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care.**

SHB 1862: Health Professionals Licenses

Allows the disciplining authority to order restrictions on or the revocation of a health care professional's license to practice, after a finding or hearing that a license holder or applicant has committed unprofessional conduct or is unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety due to a physical or mental condition. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care.**

HB 1863: Part-Time Health Commissions

Provides for compensation to part-time health commissions. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care, Public Hearing, 3-22-99, 1:30 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 4.**

HB 1864: Surgical Technologists

Authorizes the registration of surgical technologists. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care, Public Hearing, 3-25-99, 1:30 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 4.**

SHB 1992: Epinephrine Administration

DOH in cooperation with the House Health Care Committee is required to review the use of epinephrine for anaphylaxis by EMTs and determine the number of incidents of anaphylaxis statewide, the training costs associated with establishing specialized training for EMTs to carry and administer epinephrine, and an assessment of the potential risks associated with the use of epinephrine. DOH is allowed to establish a pilot program to determine the effectiveness of training EMTs to carry and administer epinephrine to persons under the age of 30. DOH is allowed to establish a volunteer advisory committee to assist with the development and review of the pilot program. **Senate Health & Long-Term Care.**

SSB 5050: Intractable Pain Treatment.

Allows health professionals who have taken reasonable efforts to eliminate or alleviate pain to prescribe Schedule II-IV drugs for the treatment of intractable pain. Does not address treatment of conditions other than intractable pain with controlled substances included in Schedules II through V. Provides that the licensing entity for health professionals licensed in this state to prescribe controlled substances, shall not take action against the health professional's license, if the health professional follows the accepted standard of care for treatment of intractable pain with controlled substances and the licensed health professional obtains informed consent. Declares that prescription of controlled substances included in Schedules II through V for intractable pain by a health professional licensed in this state to prescribe controlled substances is not a criminal offense. **House Health Care.**

SB 5114: Hospital Annual Inspections

Provides an exemption from annual inspections for hospitals accredited by the American Osteopathic Association similar to that offered to hospitals accredited by the Joint Committee on Accreditation of Health Organizations. **House Health Care.**

SB 5262: Sleep Monitoring

Declares the scope of practice for respiratory care practitioners does not prohibit any person from performing

sleep monitoring tasks under the supervision or direction of a licensed health care provider. **House Health Care.**

SSB 5312: Health Care Workplace Violations

Requires that, by July 1, 2000, each health care setting shall develop and implement a plan to reasonably prevent and protect employees from violence. Requires that, by July 1, 2001, and on a regular basis thereafter, each health care setting shall provide violence prevention training to all its employees. **House 1st Reading.**

E SSB 5599: Temporary Worker Housing

Requires DOH to adopt joint rules for the licensing, operation, inspection, and enforcement of temporary worker housing. These rules must establish worker protection standards that are as effective, but do not exceed, the standards developed under WISHA. Decisions whether to extend a licensee's permit must be coordinated at the state and local level. **House State Government.**

SSB 5604: Health Facility Worker Identification

Requires all persons providing health care services directly to patients at a health care facility to wear identification badges. **House Health Care.**

SB 5648: Lodging Businesses

Provides consistency in definitions regarding businesses furnishing lodging; defines a hotel as a facility that furnishes three or more rooms for guest accommodation. **House Commerce & Labor.**

SSB 5657: Veterinary Medical Facilities

Allows animal care and control agencies and nonprofit humane societies that employ veterinarians may own and operate veterinary medical facilities. **House Agriculture & Ecology.**

SSB 5669: Conversion Vending/Medical Units

Requires specific rules for the occupants of conversion vending units and medical units to protect the occupants from fire and other dangers. **House Commerce & Labor.**

SB 5702: Physician's Assistants

Revises physician assistant licensing and practice requirements. **House Health Care, Public Hearing, 3-25-99, 8:00 a.m., House Hearing Room C.**

SB 5739: Death Certificates

Allows physician's assistants or advanced registered nurses as persons to be presented certificates of death. **House Health Care.**

SSB 5805: Nurse Practitioners Prescriptive Authority

Completes prescriptive authority for advanced registered nurse practitioners. **House Health Care.**

SB 5920: Midwives/Women's Health Care

Includes midwives in the definition of health care practitioners that provide women's health care services. **Senate Passed 3rd.**

Regulatory Reform

E 2SHB 1893: Permit Issuance

Finds that environmental permit issuance can be streamlined by requiring local jurisdictions to coordinate their permit processes with those of the state government. **House Passed 3rd.**

SSB 5148: Permit Assistance Center

The Permit Assistance Center is re-authorized and the sunset provisions are repealed. The center's reporting requirements are changed from annual to periodic. The requirements focus on making recommendations for streamlining and coordinating environmental permitting as well as on documenting the center's performance. The timing of negotiating for coordinated permitting services is modified. Cost recovery is authorized in which agencies may seek from the permit applicant the reimbursement of costs incurred in environmental review and permit processing. **House Agriculture & Ecology, Public Hearing, 3-23-99, 1:30 p.m., House Hearing Room A.**

State Government

SHB 1990: State Employee Background Check

Provides for criminal history background checks for potential state employees and contractors with potential unsupervised involvement with children or individuals with physical disabilities. **Senate Human Services & Corrections.**

SSB 5066: Legislative Reporting Requirements

Establishes a procedure in which a state agency that has a legislatively mandated requirement to report to the Legislature or legislative committees regarding a specific matter may be required to appear before the joint administrative rules review committee to explain a failure to report or submission of a report that is not responsive. **House State Government, Public Hearing, 3-26-99, 8:00 a.m., House Hearing Room C.**

SSB 5363: Civil Service Reform

Directs the Personnel Resources Board to conduct a comprehensive review of all rules governing the classification, allocation, and reallocation of positions within the classified service. Goals are include developing a simplified classification system that will substantially reduce the number of job classifications in the classified service, developing a classification system to permit state agencies to respond flexibly to changing technologies, economic and social conditions, and the needs of its citizens, and to enhance mobility and career advancement opportunities, while limiting the number of managers in any state agency to 10%. Authorizes any department, agency, or institution of higher education to purchase services provided by employees in classified service under this chapter by contracting with individuals, nonprofit organizations, businesses, or other entities, provided this does not lessen wages. Requires agencies that contract out to assist displaced workers. Allows for collective bargaining reform without granting any employee the right to strike or refuse to perform his or her official duties. **House State Government.**

SB 5915: State Agency Reports

Various statutes are amended or repealed to eliminate reports to the Legislature that are no longer wanted or considered necessary. **House State Government.**

SSB 6003: Liquor Control Board

Creates the Washington State Department of Liquor Control. Reorganizes the Liquor Control Board. **House State Government, Public Hearing, 3-23-99, 9:00 a.m., House Hearing Room B.**

Tobacco

HJM 4003: Tobacco Settlement

Requests amending the federal Medicaid statute to prohibit federal recoupment of state tobacco settlement recoveries. **Filed with Secretary of State.**

E SB 5485: Tobacco Product Manufacturers

Places the financial burdens imposed by cigarette smoking on tobacco manufacturers rather than the state. Creates a reserve account for tobacco manufacturers not participating in the master tobacco settlement agreement. **House Health Care.**

SSB 5359: Tobacco Litigation Monies

Directs that funds received by the state as a result of the settlement of the state's legal action against tobacco product manufacturers, exclusive of costs and attorneys' fees, shall be deposited in the Tobacco Settlement Account. Authorizes the state treasurer to transfer a total of \$100,000,000 from the tobacco settlement account, to the tobacco prevention and control account, upon authorization of the Director of Financial Management. The director shall authorize transfer of the total amount no later than June 30, 2001. **House Appropriations.**

E SSB 5516: Tobacco Prevention & Control

Requires the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program to design and implement public health projects relating to tobacco, including but not limited to enforcing prohibitions on tobacco sales to minors, counter-marketing and advertising efforts relating to tobacco, school and community educational programs discouraging tobacco use, tobacco use cessation programs, and research regarding tobacco-related illnesses. **House Health Care, Public Hearing, 3-23-99, 1:30 p.m., House Hearing Room C.**

E SB 5881: Youth Access to Tobacco

Regulates youth access to tobacco products. Repeals the state's preemption of local tobacco control regulations. Requires cigarettes to be sold in packages of no smaller than twenty cigarettes. Prohibits tobacco manufacturers and wholesalers from paying fines for any retailer. **House Commerce & Labor.**

E SB 5897: Export Cigarette Sales

Requires that purchasers of cigarettes be informed of adverse health consequences and whether the cigarettes were manufactured for consumption within the United States. **Senate Passed 3rd.**

Welfare Reform

HB 2226: TANF Eligibility for Children

Eliminates eligibility standards retained from the Aid to Dependent Children Program under the TANF program. **Senate Labor & Workforce Development.**

E SB 5163: WorkFirst Participation

Modifies good cause reasons for failure to participate in WorkFirst program components. **House Children & Family Services.**

SSB 5299: TANF Residency Requirement

Eliminates the requirement for TANF recipients to reside in Washington for a period of one year before receiving TANF benefits equal to other Washingtonians. **House Children and Family Services.**

E SB 5490: TANF Employment Assessments

Requires DSHS to screen TANF applicants for learning disabilities, in order to customize and make meaningful their individual responsibility plans, refer them to treatment as appropriate, or exempt them from work activity requirements, benefit time limits, or other requirements of Title 74 RCW. **House Children & Family Services.**

SSB 5522: TANF Work Activity

Requirements to assess WorkFirst recipients are placed at the beginning of the recipient's participation in the WorkFirst program. The initial assessment includes screening for barriers to self-sufficiency, including homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence victimization, limited English proficiency and illiteracy. The Individual Responsibility Plan recommends that adult recipients assure that their school-age children attend school, and requires that recipients document immunization of their children. **House Children & Family Services.**

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